## Amnsements and Meetings Co-Night.

OTR's THEATER .- 1:30: "King Lear." 8: "Bichard PITH AVENUE TREATER -1:30 and 8: "School for GRAND OPERA HOUSE, -2 and 8: "Crabbed Age."
LYCEUM THEATER. -1:30: "Othello." 8: "Merchant of
Venice." Bouth. Venice." Booth.

OLYMPIC NOVELTY THEATER.—2 and 8: Variety.

PARE THEATER.—1:30 and 8: "Musette."

PARK THEATER.—1:30 and 8: "Musette."

8AN PRANCISCO MINSTRELS.—2 and 8:
TONY PASTOR'S NEW THEATER.—Variety
TWENTY-THIRD STREET OPERA HOUSE.—2 and 8: Kelly & Leon's Minstrela UNION SQUARE THEATER.—1:30: "Miss Multon." 8: "Led Astray." WALLACK'S THEATER.—1:30 and 8: "The Shaughraun."

ACADEMY OF DESIGN.—Johnston Art Collection.
ACADEMY OF MUSIC.—Day and Evening: Grand Fufr.
BROOKLYN ACADEMY OF MUSIC.—Philharmonic Concert.
GILMORE'S GARDEN.—Equestrian Festival
HELLER'S WODER THEATER.—2 and 8; Magical and
Musical Performance. Musical Performance.

Kuetz Gallery - Scabury Art Collection.

New American Museum-Day and Evening.

New-Tork Aquanum-Day and Evening.

New-Tork Aquanum-Day and Seening.

UNION LEAGUE THEATER.—2:30: Lecture. Dr. L. Sauveur.

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CHOICE HOLIDAY GOODS.

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DAKT WINESS and peruse the official list of Advertised Unclaimed Letters at home than to expend 10 cents in car him and read it on tip-too at the Pos MUSIC BOXES In endless variety. From \$1 75 upward, most suitable for HOLIDAY PRESENTS. M. J. PAILLARD & CO. No. 680 Broadway, near Bond-st.

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# New-Mork Daily Tribune.

FOUNDED BY HORACE GREELEY.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16, 1876.

## TRIPLE SHEET.

THE NEWS THIS MORNING.

Foreign .- M. Jules Simon's declaration has been favorably received by nearly all the Paris journals. - Russian agents are said to be inciting the Bulgarians to demand Russian occupation. = Servia has requested Russia to have Gen. Ignatioff represent her at the Conference, = Gen. Rocha has arrived at Brownsville, intending to capture

DOMESTIC .- The Mikado of Japan sends his congratulations over the Centennial to President Grant. = Evidence of intimidation by Republicaus has been taken by the Democratic Committee in Louisiana. —— The losses by the Little Rock fire amount to \$140,000. A fire broke out in the town of Bolivar, Tenn., which involved a loss of \$200,000.

Congress.-The Senate appointed a conference committee on the apprepriation bill to pay the expenses of the special Southern committees. The debate took place on the Oregon case. = The House debated Louisiana affairs and passed the special committees' appropriation bill after reducing the Senate item from \$50,000 to \$30,000.

CITY AND SUBURBAN.-Mayor Wickham has a cepted the position of receiver of the Security Life Insurance Company; it is expected that several other companies will fail soon. = The City Gas Commission rejected the bids of the companies for 1877. = Gen. Varian was appointed Superintendent of Markets in place of Thomas F. Devoc. The coroner's inquest on the Brooklyn disaster was continued, and several public buildings in New-York and Brooklyn were inspected. Gold, 10758. 10734. 10734. Gold value of the legaltender dollar at the close, 92 810 cents. Stocks active and feverish, closing unsettled.

THE WEATHER.-THE TEIBUNE'S local observations indicate clear, cool weather. Thermometer yesterday, 28°, 31°, 26°.

In the House of Representatives: "No, Sir!" -"Oh, yes!"-"No, Sir;" "Now, you sit "down!" This is parliamentary eloquence.

The United States Senate took hold of the subject of mileage yesterday, and threw it. Witnesses west of the 110th meridian are to get seven cents a mile each way. A general migration of the American people toward the home of the setting sun may be looked for immediately.

Party fealty is of slight account in Mexico. Instead of going as Minister to Berlin, Gen. Rocha has joined the Iglesias party, and is now before Matamoros, which is being plundered in the name of law by a Gen. Revueltas. Should the city surrender, she will have recognized three Presidents or Dictators within one

General willingness is evinced in Brussels to sustain the Union du Credit Bank, which is threatened with ruin on account of the misconduct of the president, who misappropriated \$800,000. In adopting this course the financiers are only obeying the instinct of selfpreservation. They would lose more by a panie than they could gain by the downfall of a rival.

The letter concerning the present situation of Princeton College, which we print in another column, may be taken as the semiofficial reply by the management of that venerable institution to the recent criticisms of its conduct, with which the public journals have abounded. The explanation as to the they have suffered for the sake of their brandnecessity for building is satisfactory, so far as new opinions at the hands of Republican

it goes. If the trustees can now build up the means of instruction on a scale as great, they will have done much to make Princeton what its friends wish to believe that it now is.

The Gas Commission rejects in a lump all the bids of the gas companies, which were evidently made in collusion, and directs that new proposals be received for lighting the streets for the first three months of the year, in order to give the Legislature time to do something about the matter. What they are to do is not yet stated, and is not very clear. With the contest adjourned to that body, the companies would have a considerable advantage. They can buy votes and the city cannot. The project of compelling them to come to terms by a resort to some other mode of lighting the streets for a time, at least, may not be found impracticable.

At a late hour last night, Mr. William H. Vanderbilt finally capitulated—signing the surrender of the New-York Central and the agreement for an advance of freight and passenger rates which the other lines have been pressing upon him, with the freight discrimination against New-York unchanged. It is the end of the railroad war, but an end in which, as at present advised, we cannot see that New-York has much reason to rejoice. Already Mr. David Dows has established a commission house in Baltimore, and if our own railroads, after the most solemn pledges, fail to protect our interests, it will not be surprising to find other leading houses imitating Mr. Dows's example.

A New-Orleans letter, on another page, gives a careful summing up of the most important considerations to be taken into account in reaching a decision on the Louisiana case. It deals exclusively with the condition of the bulldozed parishes, whose vote gave Tilden most of his majority on the vote actually cast, and the rejection of whose vote did much to transform this majority into one for Gov. Haves. It shows that while much of the violence and crime cited by the Republicans to support their claims was probably not political in its intent, it was so in its results, inasmuch as it established a reign of terror, making a free ballot impossible in some sections at least. Now that there is high Democratic authority for the existence of intimidation in Louisiana, there will be renewed interest in the subject. The letter referred to gives a good deal of information which partisans on both sides will find indigestible.

There is evidence of a sharp awakening on the part of the Insurance Department of this State. It is hoped that Acting Superintendent Smyth will carry out to the letter his expressed intention of thoroughly investigating the affairs of all the life insurance companies doing business here. Hitherto he seems to have been bound by the traditions of his office, where it was customary to accept the sworn statements of insurance companies as akin to gospel truth. At all events the policy of nursing weak and moribund companies is at an end. There are many of the old, strong companies whose solvency is past question; they are clamorous to have their books and investments examined, since the more thoroughly they are overhauled the more fully will their strength be demonstrated. It is for the interest of the whole community that these examinations should be pushed with rapidity as well as thoroughness. In proportion as Mr. Smyth bestirs himself now, will the public be inclined to condone the previous laxity of his office, for which, however, he is not to any great extent responsible.

We publish this morning a letter of special interest from The Tribune's Paris correspondent, upon Gambetta's recent speech to his constituents at Belleville. It is usual, in poli ics, for a man to define his position upon every question as it arises, in order to justify his claim to leadership; but Gambetta has reversed this process in a very remarkable manner. He wins his leadership first, and explains afterward. It is hardly likely, however, that his present declaration is the key to his past career: he is a close and shrewd observer, no less than an impassioned orator, and speaks because he at last feels sure of the proper policy to be pursued and the proper time to avow it. By separating himself from the extreme Left, he gives such strength and compactness to the Republican party in the French Assembly that it will be able, henceforth, to determine the policy of the Government. He probably foresaw the approaching Ministerial crisis, and his attitude was therefore one of the elements which have brought about its speedy and satisfactory solution.

Dr. Leonard Bacon takes his stand, in a letter printed elsewhere, upon the bold statement that "the reconstruction attempted in the "nezro States"-meaning those in which the blacks are nearly or quite in the majorityhas been a failure." From this he proceeds to consider, not the remedy, but the cause. This he holds to have been "the blunder of universal suffrage without distinction of race or color," which enfranchised the ignorant whites with the ignorant blacks, and prevented that commingling of the two races, which he believes would have taken place if intelligence had been made a prerequisite of suffrage. The failure of reconstruction is shown conclusively to his satisfaction in the inability of such Executives as Gov. Chamberlain to sustain their own governments except by force of Federal arms. The discussion which Dr. Bacon invites is suited for more peaceful times than the present, but it is by no means an idle one. There can be little doubt, however, that while many of the deplorable results of universal suffrage in the South were clearly foreseen, it was then the settled conviction of many of the wisest men of the North, as it doubtless still remains, that there was no alternative; that whatever evils might follow, the ballot was necessary to protect not only the freedom and prosperity of the negro, but his very life. This logic seemed inexorable; it remains to be seen whether it was defective.

The outlook for a satisfactory investigation in Louisiana by the Congressional Committees is not so bright as it might be. The two visiting committees set a bad precedent in keeping up their partisan rivalries when the need of the hour was, above all things, a little unselfish statesmanship, and this precedent there seems to be danger that the committees of the two houses, which have a higher, authority and a graver duty than the two delegations, will follow. The Democratic Committee is already hard at work, taking in Democratic testimony by the cord. Democratic negroes, who talk marvelously like the good little boys in books, relate how they have been very wicked as Republicans, but have made up their minds to be good, and not to go to the Custom-house any more or to any other places of vile resort, and how much

been appointed, which will go about the State in search of more depositions of the same kind. The Republican Committee has not yet got to work, but when it does we shall doubtless get heaps and stacks of Republican testimonybulldozing where the whip and shotgun were always Democratic and the victim always Republican. Much of the testimony on both sides is likely to be true, and much of it is not. But if the House Committee goes on as it has begun-and that is a way House Committees have-and the Senate Committee follows its example, we are likely to know as much about this Louisiana business as we did before. The honest citizen will be compelled to strike the best average he can between the two.

NOT A GOOD PLACE TO BEGIN. We cannot withhold our sympathy for the persons, distinguished and undistinguished, who, believing Mr. Tilden to have been fairly elected, and hoping in the event of his inauguration to have opportunities to engage in the work of administrative reform at stated salaries, are endeavoring to induce the American People to rise up. They seem to be having a serious time of it. The People do not rise up worth a cent. The attitude of the Democracy is so unusual that they are more interested in studying and wondering over that than in rising up. A few years ago a Connecticut gentleman was told that two prominent politicians of that State, who were better known for their liveliness of disposition than for abstemiousness, were making speeches on the temperance question. "I'm glad of it; "glad of it," said he, and then after a moment's reflection he suddenly inquired, "Which "side?" The people have heard with something of the same pleasurable emotion that the Democratic party is in a state of mind about the purity of elections, and very urgent to have a popular demonstration on the subject. Everybody said at once they were glad of it, but upon reflection it seemed so queer and was so confusing that everybody stopped and asked Which side?" In this confused and uncertain condition of the public mind, the Democratic agitators do not find it so easy to rouse the people as to get excited themselves. They must bear with the people, however, under the circumstances, and attribute their unreadiness to rise up to their inability to appreciate the suddenness of the conversion.

We would not lay a feather in the way of the very earnest persons who are engaged in rousing the people. It is a proper and legitimate method of influencing legislation. If there is any popular feeling upon this subject, such as would naturally find expression in public meetings, and resolutions, and speeches, and that sort of demonstration, there can be no reasonable objection to the utterance of the feeling. The people need no justification for taking such steps to make their opinions known to their representatives in the National Legislature, and the National Legislature ought always to give them the weight and consideration to which they are entitled. We take leave to suggest, however, that Indiana is not a good starting point for an enterprise of this character, and that an aroused public sentiment on the necessity of a fair election and an honest count is hardly likely to find its first expression in a partisan demonstration participated in by a defeated candidate. Gov. Hendricks may be entirely unselfish in his devotion to the cause of administrative reform and his advocacy of the purity of elections, but we submit that he does not appear well as an actor in a public demonstration against the result of an election in which he was a defeated candidate. Uncharitable people will say that he cares more for the Vice-Presidency than for any abstract question of political morality. The State of Indiana, too, has a reputation in matters of this sort that is not likely to help a rousing t'at originates there. The Democrats of that State have heretofore risen up in opposition to the Government, and the demonstration was not attended by any results except to put the lous, position. Doubtless it is easy enough to get up a considerable mass meeting in that State of persons who have been disappointed in the result of the election, and who think something ought to be done to change it. Mr. Hendricks, we can well believe, found it easy to draw up an address to the people on the subject. But has it not occurred to these persons that the uprising had better begin somewhere else and among a different class of people? It certainly seems to men of average understanding as though the performances of the Indiana Democrats were only calculated to bring the movement they desire to set on foot

### into contempt. THE FLORIDA COUNT.

Gen. Barlow's report throws before the country, in the strongest possible light, the vital issue of the whole dispute-the very issue upon which, in the end, the decision will probably turnnamely, this: Shall the decision of official bodies, required by law and sworn to ascertain the truth, be set aside by partisan clamor, or ex parte evidence, or intemperate assertions, or verdicts based upon partisan inquiries and warped by partisan wishes? In all this discussion, no one has made it so clear as Gen. Barlow has, that the most careful observer, acting with the strictest judicial impartiality, must have found grave difficulty in answering the questions submitted to Returning Boards of the disputed States. We know of nothing more shameful than the clamor of partisans that their candidate "must have carried" these States, and that any decision to the centrary "must be "fraudulent," .It is high time for the American people to rebuke with stern indignation these revolutionary claims. If, at every recurring Presidential election, this gambler's game of bluff is to be employed, in order to arouse partisans to resist the lawful decision of the constituted authorities in case that decision does not suit their bets or their wishes, we shall soon have Mexican elections and Mexican freedom.

The result in certain States was in great doubt-so great that decent men, conscientiously investigating the facts, must have found it not easy to decide. In that state of facts, what shall we do? Shall we insist upon our own preconceived notions, born of prejudices or personal interests? That way lies revolution, and anarchy is not far behind. We are bound to accept the decisions of the constituted authorities. We are bound to support them whether they please us or not. We are bound, at present, to accept the decisions of the Returning Boards until some competent authority has reviewed them and found them in error. The man who proposes anything else is a blatant revolutionist, who is not fit for a part in free government. It is the right of every citizen to form his

own opinion, but it is not his right to set that opinion against legal decisions. The Returning Boards at the South had all the evidence before them, and the most painstaking ob-

negroes. Meanwhile five sub-committees have server was able to see only a part of it. The members know the localities with which they have to deal, know the character of many witnesses, know the temper of the leaders and voters on both sides, and are therefore immeasurably better qualified to form an honest and correct opinion, so far as a knowledge of the surroundings and of the previous circumstances enables men to measure the credibility of conflicting evidence, than any of the Northern visitors. In freedom from party bias, it is much to be regretted that some members of these boards do not appear to have been well qualified, but they may justly claim that they have shown quite as much of that virtue as many of the visiting statesmen sent to inspect their work, and more than the Governor of Oregon, for example. We have not yet discovered, in any State, the machinery by which an absolutely impartial decision in case of disputed elections may be reached. Above all, be their qualifications great or small, these boards are the legally constituted authorities to decide these questions. Until there is such evidence that a properly constituted body of higher authority reverses their decision, the action of these Returning Boards is at once the law of the land, and it is the highest proof yet obtained of the true result of the election. As such it is entitled to the respect of every law-abiding citizen.

#### THE EASTERN CONFERENCE.

Succeeding the rosy gleams which have recently been flashed abroad from the sessions of the Conference at Constantinople, we now have reports of a bluish tinge. There is not that sweet accordance on all the principal points which almost made the Marquis of Salisbury and Gen. Ignatieff seem like two smiling cherubs, lacking only the basis of rest. Far from it. The very point which held out promise of the speediest settlement-the concession of a strip of territory, with a seaport,

to Montenegro-" met with opposition from several sides." And it is stated that Russia has undertaken to decide for herself the boundaries of Bulgaria before she has any evidence that her proposed occupation of the province will be accepted. The prolongation of the armistice is asserted and denied in the same breath. In short, the success of the Conference will remain an uncertainty until the articles of agreement are drawn up and signed by the representatives of all the Powers.

The principles involved, and the probable results of the policy which Russia has now clearly indicated, still continue to be earnestly discussed in the European journals. The Conference must of necessity accept the main features of that policy: otherwise it might as well dissolve now as later. We must not forget that the change of opinion upon the Eastern question is almost wholly due to the development of Russia under Alexander II. In proportion as she becomes a free, intelligent, and tolerant power, her dominant position in the East will cease to excite fear or jealousy. A portion of the American missionaries in Turkey, and their friends at home, are doubtful-and with some reason -how much liberty she would allow to their labors in case she should possess Turkey; yet the path of progress upon which she has entered cannot stop short of its natural goal. The time is fast approaching when every nation which claims a place in the civilized intercourse of the world will be compelled to permit the utmost freedom of conscience and worship to all within its borders.

THE MIDDLETOWN UNIVERSITY TROUBLE, It is not a very important matter; but in another column space has been found for a letter from Middletown University, reëxplaining why Miss L. J. Ellis, who was elected Class Poet, declined that tuneful office. This lady appears to have acted wisely; the honor of the appointment was not enormous nor the loss of it of a kind to destroy the happiness or to thwart the success of life. The class poem is not usually a production of the highest order, nor has one epic of the sort won party in an uncomfortable, not to say ridicu- imperishable fame. Generally they seem very though atterly unintelligible to the unitiated.

The principal objection to Miss Ellis as Class Peet, if we understand the affair, was that she does not smoke a pipe. "Class day," says our correspondent, "is a gathering to smoke the pipe of peace and ring out lively measures." It might be supposed that roman's voice would add not a little to the harmony of the "lively measures," unless the ongs happened to be (as they sometimes are in college) of a kind in which respectable ladies would hardly like to join. The young gentlemen of the Middletown class, it would appear, did not want ladies to be present at all, "Miss Ellis," Mr. Haven observes, "could "not, nor could any lady, represent our class "in this kind of exercises;" the pipes, to wit, and the jolly songs. If this is (as we are told) the "true collegian's idea of Class Day;" if that festival be sacred to singing; if no lady can represent "the class," which can only be represented by young men who smoke, the natural conclusion is that no lady should be a member. The authorities of Middletown University not having a full sense of the importance of taking tobacco, or of Music, heavenly maid, in somewhat loose attire, have actually admitted several young ladies to be regular members. It may be reasonably suggested that Class Day, as the day of the whole class and not of the masculine portion of it, should be made pleasant to the feminine minority, however small. If it is so observed as to drive them away, independent of all other considerations, it is not a Class Day at all, but only the day of a part of the class.

It is precisely upon the festive occasions in colleges that the presence of ladies is desirable. The fun may not be quite so furious, but it can well afford to lose the zest of coarseness. Meanwhile, what does the learned Faculty of Middletown University think of authorized meetings of students which it would be improper for modest women to attend?

## AMERICAN WATCHES.

In almost all the reports made by European visitors to our Centennial Exhibition, the success of the American watch manufacture has received marked comment. Even observers whose pursuits or tastes had not led them to a careful consideration of this subject have been struck by the progress made, and have expressed their unfeigned surprise at the excellence of the watches made in this country -constructed from first to last by machinery; time-pieces in which each part is made absolutely in accordance with its fixed pattern, so that every watch of a given grade is a fac-simile of all the watches of that grade, and the corresponding parts of all are interchangeable. To a considerable extent our own people have become familiarized with these facts. The superiority of American watches is generally recognized here. But to many of our European visitors it proved an unwelcome novelty.

dress delivered on this subject by M. Favre-Perret, member of the International Jury on Watches of the Exhibition. The address has been delivered successively at three of the great centers of watch manufacture in Switzerland. It is of especial value as opinions giving the undisguised one who is at once a manufacturer and an expert. Its admissions are very striking. As to the prospect of Swiss competition, they are almost mournful in their completeness: M. Favre-Perret says be is terrified by the danger to which Swiss industry is exposed. He evidently regards the prospect of recovering the American market as almost hopeless; his fear is that American watches will take precedence in Europe. A remarkable feature of this address is that it offers no recommendations, after presenting facts which it is evident were astounding to his hearers. Perhaps no sentence in the whole address is more significant on this point than the statement that if the Philadelphia Exhibition had been deferred for five years, the watchmaking industry of the Swiss would have been annihilated before they knew why or how the blow was delivered.

Not less interesting is M. Favre-Perret's testimony to the excellence of our watches, To him and to his audiences the precision of the work turned out by machinery is a marvel; he declares that when the American watch is put together it is already regulated. His tests of a watch taken indiscriminately from a lot of the Waltham manufacture that had received no special or separate regulation-one, also, of the fifth gradefilled him with admiration. He recounts the near exactness of its performance under a variety of circumstances; and adds the remark of the adjuster to whom he afterward handed it, that not one such watch would be found in 50,000 of Swiss manufacture. It will be very pleasant to Americans to read such testimony from foreign (experts; it is still pleasanter to know that it is wholly deserved.

#### IN RE ST. NICHOLAS.

The old Christmas saint, like other saints and sinners, trims his sails to meet the weather, and alters his jolly phiz to suit his company. Here is The Tribune of to-day and a yellow, faded sheet 12x12 dated Dec. 7, 1776, both of which contain an account of his doings. Christmas in New-York a hundred years ago was but a dreary business. The American prisoners were starving in the jails; Whig wives, whose husbands were with Washington's tattered army in the Jerseys, were in no humor for merry-making; the Tories made defiant, rancorous attempts at gayety in the faces of their old friends and neighbors, very much as the duelist swashbucklers of the day tossed off a bumper before the ground was stepped off. The air was full of suspicion and jealous passions. If there were any pious, genial souls who felt the influence of the gracious season and wished to make holiday weather in their homes there was literally no way to do it but by heavier feeding than usual. There was small chance for the purchase of gifts. The few haberdasher shops-the "Crossed Keys," the "Bell and Bugle," &c .- found their supply of paduasoys and grograms scant at this season; there was no trade with England or any place else; while of jewelry, pictures, music, art of any sort, our grandmothers knew little or nothing. Of the thousands of costly trifles which tempt the money now from a woman's purse at every turn, not one was known. New-York women, if of lavish tastes, sunk their gold in chests of fine napery, in their great bins, their hogsheads of wine, beef, and brawn. Take the advertising columns of THE TRIB-

UNE of this morning as a bill of fare to the table which St. Nicholas sets for the matron who proposes to make of Christmas a feast for her children and neighbors. If she means to give them a treat of wit, wisdom, or fun, here are Music, the Drama, Literature in every shade and quality (filling eight solid columns of advertisements), ranging from Shakespeare and Beethoven to circus-riders and the three-tailed fish. If she has a fancy to spend her money in art, high or low, here are galleries for sale such as the mother country did not own a hundred years ago; fine engravings, mammoth collections of photographs and chromos; here are libraries at auction, rare old editions which Lamb would have carried home under his coat, ashamed and triumphant, books which are genuine mines of thought and books which are heaps of unclean rubbish. If she wishes to brighten her own or some poorer house for the whole year, the good saint offers her music, the instruments, all the implements of art, and its teachers. Or if she has a practical turn of mind and a full pocket, what is there which she cannot buy to warm the bodies or delight the sense of her friends or poor neighbors? The Arctic regions rob their seals and bears of their skins for her; the eider duck sends the down from its breast to keep her warm at night; from India and Japan come carpets more marvelous than Aladdin's, shawls and china which are themselves lessons in the highest art; Paris sends dolls whose dresses are worth a poor man's income, and all the world wines and meats for the Christmas table. If her pocket is not so full, but her heart just as warm, old Saint Nick does not fail her. He offers her through THE TRIBUNE wares to make a dozen homes bright and glad for the very smallest of sums. He has caught the desire for good artistic work too, which the Exposition gave to the most uncultured people; and not only sets eagerly before her house decorations from the best makers in the world, but cheap pottery and fabrics of artistic design.

If there be any old Scrooge among our. readers (which God forbid!) who has neither kinsfolk nor poor friends nor needy neighbors to make glad on the coming Christmas, he will find Saint Nick has provided for him too: there is a column of notices of charities, of succor given to the aged and poor, to orphans, to the blind, which he can help with money or gifts. In fact there is hardly a needy sufferer of any sort, from the convict in the nearest prison to the starving outcast of Bulgaria or India, who cannot be reached by some authorized medium in New-York.

Such are a few of the hints which the Christmas saint gives us this morning. There are a few others which he would like to say emphatically, but which do not belong to advertising columns. First, don't let your presents in any case be meant as payment. A good many people of mercantile souls are restive under obligations and use the beautiful cus tom of Christmas-giving to pay off scores for hospitality, kindness rendered, or still worse, send A and B a \$50 bronze because last year they gave them \$50 worth. It must wring the heart of the jolly old saint to be forced to shoulder such receipted bills. If you want to pay old scores, find some other season and apology. Let Christmas of all days be given up to spontaneous good will and kindly feeling. Secondly, take time enough to suit your gift to your friend. The poorest trifle which shows that you have We present to-day a translation of an ad- remembered and considered his tastes or

whims is worth the most lavish expenditure on a gift which would suit a hundred stupid men. And lastly, in your charity remember that there are "poor and lame and blind" who are full in pocket and sound in limb. There is the soured old woman, the neglected foreigner, the morbid ugly girl. Not the pleasantest guests to summon to your Christmas feast of love and good will perhaps. "They cannot "recompense thee; but thou shalt be recom-" pensed."

When Mr. Hayes is installed in the Executive Mansion, is put in possession of the Treasury and other departments, and is made Commander-in-Chief of the armies and navies of the United States, he will have become a de facto President, so Mr. Horace White is convinced, possibly a de facto President of high degree, and as such his acts would be valid as against third parties. But he will be a usurper, and something must be done to counteract him. Mr. White only admits the public into the antechamber of his scheme for subverting Mr. Hayes, and this is the glimpse which an interviewer gets of the interior. Mr. Tilden is to swear himself in as a twentyfour carat de jure President, and reside at the seat of Government. "As against third parties," or any other parties, he'll not amount to much; but then he can keep himself busy "preserving the continuity of the Government." Meanwhile Congress will look after the public credit, the mails, the courts, the revenue, the pensions, and hold society together in a general democratic sort of way, and-well! this is about as far along as Mr. White has got.

#### PERSONAL.

Ingalls, Senator from Kansas, writes articles or current periodicals

Mr. Bruce, the colored Senator from Mississippi, is a planter and a native of Virginia. He is 35 years old, stout, and black-haired, and has pleasant manners, saith *The Rutland Herald*. Mrs. Robeson, it is said, was glad New-Jersey went Democratic, and asks nothing more for her

husband than that he should settle down in Washington to the practice of law. She goes abroad in the Spring. Mrs. Belknap looks handsomer than ever in her plain mourning dress, says The Louisville Courier Journal. Mr. Beiknap appears to be busily occupied. They are living at the Arlington Hotel in Washington.

The Archbishop of Canterbury was a victim to red-tape the other day. The venerable gentleman wanted to get into the British Museum reading-room, but because he had forgotten his ticket the custodian wouldn't let him pass. What is earthly greatness !

Gen. Spinner's autograph appears to be a source of anguish to the average paragrapher. One of these says that when that excellent man writes his name in the Florida sand the alligators gather around and gaze upon it with a puzzled expression on their intelli-gent faces.

Mr. David A. Wells is in New-York on an errand far less agreeable than the Adam Smith dinner at which he appeared. His wife is in a state of health quite alarming to her friends, and has been brought to New-York to have the close personal attendance of her cousin, Dr. Fordyce Barker.

Mr. Thurlow Weed, and other friends who have lately seen a good deal of Commodore Vanderbilt, begin now to express a little hope of his recovery. He is unquestionably much better in many respects than he was two or three months ago, although many of the fam-ily and friends long since abandoned hope of his recovery

Maria Rossetti, sister of William, Dante and Christina Rossetti, has just died. She was the author of an interesting work called "The Shadow of Dante." She was of an almost morbidly religious turn of mind, and soon after the marriage of her brother William, when the family became less dependent upon his care, she took the vail in one of the ritualistic (Protestant) sisterhoods which have sprung into existence since the Tractarian

Mr. George Opdyke has been tempted by the scattering of his children and the ill-health of his wife to give up housekeeping, and to sell his splendid residence on Firth-ave. This was among the last and costliest first-class double houses built on that avenue before the panic. It was sold for \$190,000, which affords as good a clew, perhaps, as has lately been given of the present market value of real estate in the most eligible quarters on Murray Hill.

Mr. Delane, chief editor of The London Times, is very ill, and it is feared sinking, says Mr. M. D. Conway, at last writing. Mr. Conway adds: "Next to him on the staff of that paper is Mr. Courtney, and after him Mr. Stebbing. There is reason to believe that the next editor of *The Times* will make that journal much more liberal than it is at present. It aims to represent the average opinion of the middle classes, but for some time it has been rather beneath it in some matters."

Gen. George Washington was precise in dress and probably had many a pleasant little vanity of his own. In the camp at Cumberland (1755) there was but one mirror, and that set in the end of a powder-horn used by his friend and comrade Col. Zachary Lewis. By this mirror Gen. George shaved his chin every morning and completed his tollet. The powder-horn is now in possession of one of Col. Lowis's descendants, resident in Richmond. The horn is still suspended upon the plaited leathern string by which it hung at the soldier's side.

Thackeray had a more than common rigi to that sometimes abused title of "Christian philoso An American writing in Harper says he once mentioned to the novelist the objections urged by at accomplished lady friend to his assignment of Col. Newcome at the close of his noble life to the foundation of the hospital within the preclucts of which his boyish days had been passed. She thought it a shame to bring such a man to what she thought a sort of degradation such a man to want an average of the usual earnest-"Then," said Thackeray, with more than usual earnest-ness of manner, "then sie is not a Christian!" This writer once asked Thackeray which he considered his hear havel, and he said without heaftatton he thought

est novel, and he said without hesitation Estuond" superior to either of the others. Thomas Guthrie once related an incident which gives a striking idea of the overcrowded condition of the clerical profession in Eugland some years ago. He visited Mr. Nisbet, the well-known London pub lisher, and saw a private carriage leaving the door from which a large bundle was given out. On passing this bundle, which lay in the lobby, Mr. Nisbet touched it with his foot, saying, "You'll not guess what that is That contains east-off clothes for the families of poor elergymen of the Church of Eugland. I receive and distribute a large quantity of them every year, and they are most thankfully received." Poor Mr. Crawley had

As Senator Cameron entered the Senate chamber on Thursday morning, he joined a group of Senators with whom Mr. Blaine was in conversation. Cameron at once began a little good-natured railler, about the Philadelphia Post-Office matter, on which the we have had a sharp difference. He said: "Now, Blaine, see my magnanimity toward you. I have just ocen to the Post-Office Department and recommended the appointment of a postmaster in a large town in my State appointment of a posturaiser in a range soon. Blaine who is known as an enthusiastic Blaine man." Blaine replied quick as a flash: "Way, General, in Penusylvania you could not do otherwise, unless you appointed a Democrat." The venerable Senator joined in the laugh, and acknowledged that he owed Blaine a dinner.

plenty of mates.

Fraulein Alwine Frommann, daughter and sister of the publishers Frommann of Jenn, knew Goethe almost as a member of her family. Mr. Taylor repeals in The Atlantic one of her anecdotes concerning the great German. "Our servants were devoted to him," she said, "because with all his personal dignity he was so kind and human in his treatment of them. I remenber we had once a cook, a young woman from the comtry, who took great pains to observe what dishes be particularly relished. When he visited Jens he usually lived in our garden-house, and his meals were carried to him there. So, the next time he came over from Weimar, the cook prepared the dinner she thought he would ifin Goethe was tired and hungry, and was so touched by this aftention to his tastes that he said to her, 'Thou ar this aftention to his tastes that he said to her, 'Thou ar' a good child!' took her head between his two hands, and hissed her on the forehead. She rushed back to the house breathless, her hands clasped and her eyes shining as I never saw them before, and said to us, 'Oh, is kissed me ou the forehead!' And for days afterward she moved about the house with such a quiet, serone, soless air that one could only believe that she felt the kiss as a consecration. Yes, and for me, too, his friendship is a consecration.

The correspondents at Washington don't seem to be able to let Mr. Bine Jeans William alone; he serve as the red rag round which they constantly dance in a frenzy of description. Here, for instance, is a writer is The Cincinnati Guzette, who sweetly says of Mr. Williams that "he is without exception one of the ugliest men a face and figure I have ever seen. His body is long, less, and lank, and his ungraceful arms hang as if spliced so to his ungainly body and worked by rusty hinges. His hands are brown and callous-looking, and his face is utterly devoid of any expression of culture, intellect, or refinement. His skin resembles, in color and texture that of the Egyptian mummies at the Smithsonian. hair is coarse and black, and he has shaved of the scraggy little beard he last Winter were under his chits. probably his economical habits prolibiting his long's supporting such an unnecessary laxury. Upon being asked why he were such a shabby-looking suit, has Jeans replied, 'It's good enough for house, and ought to be good enough for Congress.' The correspondent set on to say that ex-Goy. Walker of Virginia is the hand somest man in the House, with a fine figure, face, and